



WASHINGTON, DC HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Ultimate Experience



Who We Are

Close Up is more than a tour – we are the ultimate **real-world experience**. Since 1971, we have brought over **900,000 students and teachers** to our **nation's capital** to show them **first-hand** the **power of the political process** and how it relates to them.

Using DC as a living classroom, students make personal connections with the people, institutions, and **iconic sites** that embody our nation's past and present. Through **meaningful conversations** with students from across the country, our programs help young people **find their unique voice**. The empowerment of youth and the issues they care about are at the core of what we do.

We believe that **informed citizens** create a stronger nation, so it's our mission to provide young people with the **skills they will need** to be **actively engaged citizens** for a lifetime. Not only will students have a **fun and inspirational experience**, they will also come back as **leaders in their community!**



EXPLORE
yesterday

A person with dark hair in a ponytail, wearing a light-colored puffer jacket and a red backpack, stands with their back to the camera. They are looking across a body of water at the Washington Monument, which is reflected in the water. The sky is a warm orange and yellow from the setting sun.

INSPIRE
today

A young man and a young woman are standing together, smiling at the camera. The man is wearing a dark suit, a blue shirt, and a patterned tie. The woman is wearing a white top and a red cardigan. In the background is the United States Capitol building under a blue sky with some clouds.

IMPACT
tomorrow



Sunday

Arrive in Washington

Meet your Close Up Concierge and explore DC with your school

Welcome Dinner

Group Orientation

Meet students from across the country and **get to know your Close Up Program Instructor**

Introduction Workshop*

What are the **biggest issues that we face** in our democracy today?

Issues Debate

Ask your most challenging political questions and engage with a **liberal and a conservative DC insider**

** Workshops are small learning communities comprised of students from various states. Each workshop community is led by the same Close Up Program Instructor for the duration of the trip.*

** Study Visits led by highly-trained instructors provide unique opportunities to learn using historic sites and institutions as living classrooms.*

Sample schedule subject to change.

Monday

Three Faces of Democracy Study Visit*

How do the ideas championed by these **famous figures impact society?**

Jefferson Memorial—What about our government would Jefferson agree or disagree with today?

FDR Memorial—Should government take an active role in providing for people's basic needs?

MLK Memorial—How can an ordinary citizen accomplish extraordinary things?

Lunch at Reagan Building and International Trade Center

Embassy Discovery

Step foot on "foreign soil" and discuss the **international political landscape**

Smithsonian Institution Exploration

Visit one of the **world-renowned museums** to discover and learn about history and culture

Dinner at Hotel

Current Issues Discussion

Debate hot topics with your new friends from across the country

Social Time

Tuesday

War Memorials Study Visit

What do the **WWII, Vietnam, and Korean Memorials** say about **those who have served and sacrificed?**

Lincoln Memorial

How does the **imagery of the Lincoln Memorial** portray his legacy?

National Politics Seminar

Gain inside access and discuss current issues with a DC lobbyist, journalist, or policymaker

Lunch at National Place

Capitol Hill Group Photo

U.S. Marine Corps Memorial

Visit the larger than life representation of the **iconic flag-raising at Iwo Jima**

Dinner at Pentagon City

Mock Congress Workshop

Debate, amend, and vote on the same issues elected representatives are currently considering

Social Time

Wednesday



Capitol Hill Day

Meet with your **members of Congress** or their staff

Attend and observe **Congressional Committee Hearings** to see how laws and policies are formed

Explore the **U.S. Capitol Visitor Center and Museum**

Lunch at the Longworth Cafeteria, a **hot spot for Washington insiders**

Visit the **Supreme Court** where many landmark cases are decided

Explore the **Library of Congress**, the largest library in the world, and view the symbolic art and architecture

Witness the **U.S. Senate and House of Representatives** in action in the Galleries

Dinner at DC's Historic Union Station

DC Cultural Event

See a **show at a renowned theater**, an exclusive performance, or cheer on the **Washington Nationals baseball team!**



Thursday

Community Action Workshop

What actions can you take to **contribute on a local and national level?**

White House Photo Op

Discuss the role of the **executive branch** as you walk through the **President's neighborhood**

Neighborhood Study Visit and Lunch

Explore DC off the beaten path, e.g. Georgetown, Chinatown

Pentagon 9/11 Memorial

In what ways did the **events of 9/11** **change America forever?**

Arlington Cemetery

Visit our nation's most hallowed ground and **witness the Changing of the Guard**

Closing Reflection

How will you **stay engaged** on issues that matter to you?

Banquet and Dance

Enjoy a **fun-filled evening** with your new **friends** as you dance the night away

Friday



Sightsee in Washington

Prior to your departure, **spend some more time in the city** with your school

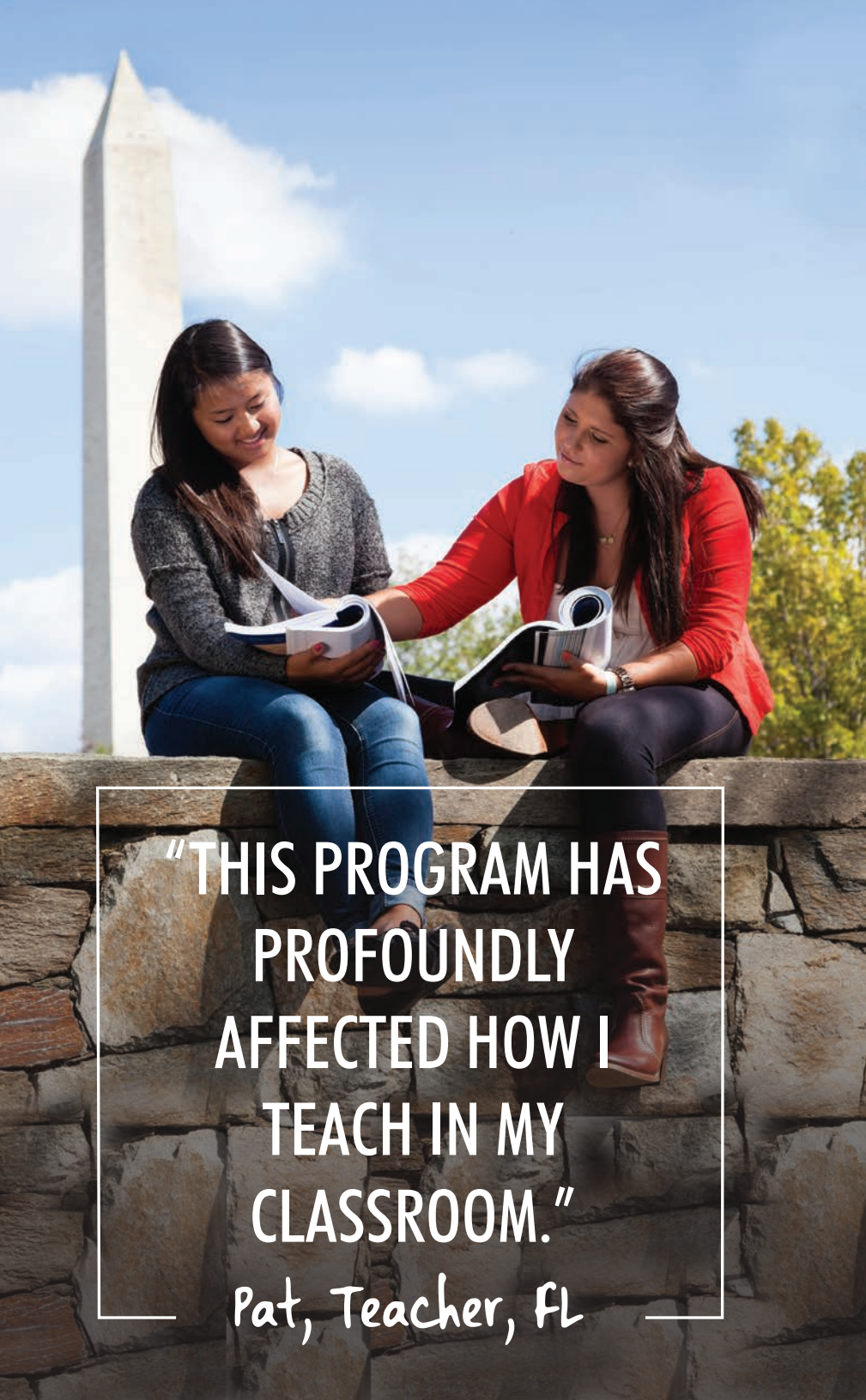
Depart for Home

Extend your stay!

Enhance your Close Up experience and spend an extra day in DC! Choose to visit the **NEWSEUM**, DC's interactive museum of journalism and current events, or **MT. VERNON**, George Washington's home in Virginia!

“ Close Up was one of the best experiences ever! I loved everything, and I will never forget this trip! ”

– Michelle, Student, CA




**"THIS PROGRAM HAS
PROFOUNDLY
AFFECTED HOW I
TEACH IN MY
CLASSROOM."**

Pat, Teacher, FL



**"CLOSE UP
WAS THE BEST
WEEK OF MY
LIFE!"**

Ann, Student, TX



"MY SON WAS SO
EXCITED ABOUT
EVERYTHING HE
LEARNED ON
CLOSE UP!"

Susan, Parent, MI

The Close Up Experience

Close Up Washington is the nation's premier civic experience! Immerse yourself in all that Washington, DC, has to offer and explore the famous monuments, world-renowned museums, and hallowed institutions that define our past, inspire our present, and impact our future.

Envision the humbling moment when you read the Gettysburg Address in the chamber of the Lincoln Memorial for the first time. Discover the beauty of another culture as you meet with diplomats at one of DC's prestigious embassies. Imagine walking through the halls of Congress and meeting your elected officials face-to-face to discuss the most pressing issues facing your community.

Close Up programs give you these once-in-a-lifetime opportunities that will inspire and empower you to become an active participant in our democracy. Your experience with Close Up will be unlike any other!

Close Up ensures you have the safest and most memorable experience possible through our all-inclusive package that includes travel, lodging, 24-hour supervision, and access to medical care. Close Up's highly-trained instructors guide you as you participate in thrilling and unforgettable activities in our nation's capital!

You will:

- **Meet peers from around the country** and participate in discussions that expand and complement your worldview;
- **See DC beyond the marble** by visiting vibrant neighborhoods throughout the city and attending a cultural event;
- **Discuss the events that have shaped our world** through visits to DC's must-see sites, including Arlington National Cemetery to witness the Changing of the Guard;
- **Debate and discuss issues with Washington insiders** giving you a behind-the-scenes look at how our government operates, and so much more!





Get Started Now!

Talk to your Close Up teacher today to get your Participant ID and Password and enroll in this amazing opportunity!

CALL: 800-CLOSE UP (256-7387)

EMAIL: info@CloseUp.org

ENROLL: CloseUp.org

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